

# SLECC

MAGAZINE

**PG. 10 ADMINISTRATORS TOUTED  
FOR OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES**

**PG. 43 EXPANSION:  
NEW WEST VALLEY CENTER**

**PG. 45 6TH IN THE NATION FOR  
DEGREES AWARDED**

**CRJ700 JET SIMULATOR  
AT WESTPOINTE**

# SLCC SNAPSHOTS



Students pose at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus during a photo shoot for the First Year Experience handbook.



TOP LEFT: Students on the first day at the newly opened West Valley Center. TOP RIGHT: A volunteer mugs for the camera during the fall job fair. MIDDLE RIGHT: Jennifer Joiner offers students a free T-shirt at the South City Campus. BOTTOM RIGHT: Special Assistant to the President Dr. Roderic Land addresses hundreds of Latino students visiting SLCC. BOTTOM LEFT: A student at South City Campus is excited for her first day.



SLCC student and artist Kenneth Gonzalez poses with a piece he created for a student art show at South City Campus.



**1:** SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin appears on Ch. 2's Fresh Living show to talk about Utah College Application Week. **2:** Sandra Ence Paul kicks off the High Style fashion exhibit at South City Campus. **3:** Buddhist monks receive help signing up for classes at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus. **4:** The cast of "Young Frankenstein" performs at the Grand Theatre. **5:** Students take part in taping a talk show for SLCC TV. **6:** A performer shows off African dance moves at the Alder Amphitheater.



There's something about trying to fly a CRJ700 commercial jet – albeit not an actual jet full of people – just one time that gives you a new appreciation for the skills and expertise demonstrated by commercial airline pilots every day. My cabinet and I recently took the controls of Salt Lake Community College's new CRJ700 simulator at our Westpointe Center and realized just how difficult and nuanced those takeoffs and landings can be. You can read about SLCC's plans for the new simulator – and reactions of those who have taken a turn at it – in this edition of SLCC Magazine.

You'll also see what an exciting fall semester we've had, with visits to campus by journalist and author Naomi Klein who drew more than 800 people to the Grand Theatre on our South City Campus, and by NPR's Planet Money reporters Stacey Vanek Smith and David Kestenbaum. We witnessed the grand opening of our West Valley Center, a visit by a Navy rear admiral to our award-winning Veterans Center on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus, and a "greener" college overall with the expansion of our alternative fuel vehicle fleet.

While it's important that we share meaningful student stories, updates on staff and faculty, and awards we've won to give you a glimpse of the important footprint of SLCC in our community, I also believe photography can be more powerful than words. The images in this edition capture the essence of SLCC: a college that is vibrant, engaged, evolving, diverse, and a remarkable contribution to our community.

I hope you'll find this edition of SLCC Magazine to be colorful and full of life. But most of all, I hope it leaves you asking yourself, "How can I be more involved in that phenomenal place?" We welcome your ideas and contributions of time and talent!

To all of you, thank you for your continued support. We are proud to be your community's college.

Most sincerely,

Deneece G. Huftalin, PhD  
*President*

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Going Green



Goldman Sachs' Utah Success



Donor Boosts STEM Initiatives



Alumnus succeeds as top chef



Maria Farrington



W. Tim Miller



Jim M. Wall

## THREE MEMBERS ADDED TO SLCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Maria Farrington** is a community leader with more than 20 years experience in local not-for-profit organizations and schools. She recently was appointed as the new executive director of Holy Cross Ministries. She has served as chief executive officer of Discovery Gateway children's museum in Salt Lake City, and developed a variety of educational partnerships to benefit and expand the museum throughout the Intermountain West. Her prior experience also includes seven years as executive director of the Eccles Annenberg Initiative in the Salt Lake City School District, executive director of Community Collaboration for United Way of Salt Lake and president and executive director of Communities in Schools of San Antonio, a dropout prevention initiative to bring needed educational services to county school districts in San Antonio, Texas. She received bachelor's degrees from the University of Houston and attended the University of Utah for a Master's in Public Administration. She is married to Bob Farrington and has two sons.

**W. Tim Miller** has been president/CEO of Echelon-Frontier since early 2002. He has been recognized by the U.S. Small Business Administration for job creation and commercialization and has deep experience in building Fortune 500 divisions and successful business startups and exits, including IPO, in pharmaceuticals, diagnostics, and medical device markets. Past senior management positions include Wyeth, Marion Laboratories (Sanofi/Aventis), and American Hospital Supply/Baxter. He has an MBA from the University of Utah where he graduated first in class with honors and teaches as an adjunct instructor. He was awarded Utah's Governor's Medal for Science and Technology for 2011. For multiple years, he has been recognized as one of Utah's top venture entrepreneurs. He established Angel Flight ([angelflight.org](http://angelflight.org)) in Utah in 1999 to provide free nonemergency medical air transportation, started Santa Flight in 2001 for needy Utah children, and was team liaison with the U.S. Men's Ice Hockey Team during the 2002 Salt Lake Winter Olympics. He is a pilot, nationally recognized flight instructor, flies his own plane, and periodically plays in a local blues band.

**Jim M. Wall** served as publisher of Deseret News Publishing Company Inc. from 2000 to 2010. He was director of Bonneville International Corp. Prior to that, he served as executive vice president and general manager of the Denver Post. His career has been spent in many positions in the newspaper industry. Wall has been active in each of the communities where he has lived and worked, including in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; executive board positions with the United Way; local chambers of commerce; community economic development; College Board of Trustees; Boy Scouts of America; theater, opera and symphony boards; and charitable organizations. He is a constant presence in the community and has participated on more than 20 Utah boards or committees. In 2004, Wall was honored as the American Heart Association's "Heart of Utah" recipient. He attended Washington State University for one year and later graduated from Brigham Young University with a degree in communications in 1972.



Dr. Clifton Sanders

## SANDERS NAMED PROVOST OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Salt Lake Community College President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin this past summer named Dr. Clifton Sanders as Provost of Academic Affairs. For the past 20 years, Sanders has been a faculty member, division chair, dean and an interim vice president. “Dr. Sanders brings an understanding of institutional history to the executive cabinet as well as a willingness to innovate and lead initiatives to improve student success rates,” Huftalin said. “His leadership in engaged learning, securing grants, workforce integration, cross-departmental collaboration and social justice practices are, and will continue to be, an asset to the College.”

Sanders, who had been serving as the interim provost, said his vision for the post will be to see a continued increase in certificate and degree completion rates while focusing on areas like deep learning, proficient workforce skills, transformative citizenship and a hunger for lifelong learning. “As professionals committed to quality student learning, faculty, staff and administrators must be deeply engaged in the broader issues of completion, our changing student demographics, high impact teaching and learning practices and informed decision making,” he said. “For example, understanding that most of our students must balance work and family commitments must inform how we implement programs, pathways, interventions and support to help them meet their educational goals.”



Dr. Charles Lepper

## LEPPER NAMED VP OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

When Dr. Charles Lepper flew in to Salt Lake City from Virginia to interview for the job of Salt Lake Community College Vice President for Student Affairs, he asked a cab driver on the way to his hotel about her impression of SLCC. “She said, ‘Oh, it’s an institution on the move,’” Lepper recalled her saying. “That stuck with me.” The cab driver’s response is reflective of what drew Lepper to the job, in which he officially started July 1.

While VP of Student Affairs at Tidewater Community College in southeastern Virginia, Lepper said he was attracted to SLCC by its “laser” focus on student success and completion and its desire to be the “premier” community college in the nation. SLCC President Deneece G. Huftalin said Lepper brings a wealth of experience in working at large, complex community colleges, where he led initiatives to strengthen student access and success. Lepper said he plans to focus on continuing efforts at SLCC to foster an environment in which to learn, work and play where all people feel “appreciated, respected and accepted” and where “all voices are heard and their uniqueness is appreciated and recognized.” Prior to Tidewater, Lepper was assistant vice president for student development at Ivy Tech Community College, an institution in Indiana with 23 campuses serving 200,000 students. He earned a master’s degree from Grand Valley State University and a doctorate from Indiana State University.



Richard Scott

## SCOTT NAMED DEAN OF ARTS AND COMMUNICATION

Richard Scott was named Dean of the SLCC School of Arts, Communication & Media in May. “Richard brings an understanding of institutional history, academic leadership, strategic planning and an impressive record of community engagement to Academic Affairs along with a deep commitment to student success,” said SLCC Provost of Academic Affairs, Clifton Sanders. “His leadership and longtime success in cross-departmental collaboration, community conversations and his deep and personal understanding of the creative process will continue to be an asset to the College.”

Scott served as interim dean and he will continue to preside over programs offered by the new Center for Arts and Media at SLCC’s South City Campus near downtown Salt Lake City. The center delivers courses in television, film, radio, journalism, animation, theater, radio, photography, graphic design, music and more. “With the School of Arts, Communication & Media, the new Center for Arts and Media and the Grand Theatre, the future of South City Campus has never been brighter,” Scott said. “We are working on increased collaboration between programs that complement each other in order for our students to excel and succeed in multiple arts- and media-related fields.” He has almost 30 years of theatrical experience as a producer, director, actor and instructor.

# Poet Laureate's words inspire at Convocation



Lisa Bickmore

The Salt Lake Community College Poet Laureate distinction was created last spring following Lisa Bickmore's recognition as winner of the Ballymaloe International Poetry contest. The Ballymaloe competition involved 2,000 poets from around the world who submitted almost 3,000 poems. Bickmore's entry "Eidolon" was written during her sabbatical and drew from her life in faith and as a mother. Bickmore will lead a team to identify a student poet to be featured at commencement. She penned "Inquiry Method" for the College's 2015 Convocation.

## Inquiry Method

In the evening there was no one here,  
no groundskeeper nor teacher nor analyst,  
just one woman with her dog, and us,  
walking around. The failing light just caught

the Sky Grass's blades, so that it  
in turn could reflect its blue; saw the dry  
outline on the sycamore leaf. Buildings  
shut up, the sun gilding their glass. Canal

water on the northern edge gliding  
west, away from the river. When does  
any story start? Tomorrow, the hour  
appointed for beginning arrives,

the ritual with which we comply,  
upon which we are fixed: the noise we make  
of beginning, obscuring the chance-composed  
music of a thousand quieter

commencements: they will arrive on that day,  
each from her own neighborhood, family,  
circumstance. She will have arranged for her  
shift to begin when her two classes end.

He will have taken his little boy  
to daycare. She wants to go to law school.  
He wants to farm as his father did,  
but in a better way. Another

holds hope like a small amulet he dares  
not show anyone. For some, it's a murmur,  
song made of a laptop opening,  
the retrieval of a pen, the unzipping

of a backpack. The fermata, just before  
a teacher walks in, uncaps a marker,  
writes something on a whiteboard and turns  
to speak her name. When does it begin,

the scraping together of money, the desire  
powering each arrival, the hazard  
of effort and aim and will for a  
barely trusted future? You walk here too,

just before the sky gets dark, in the quiet  
fields crossed by walkways, lined with trees, heat  
still rising from where it has soaked into  
the very earth. If you listen closely,

you can hear it already, the beautiful  
and difficult hum of work underway,  
in a thousand distinct modes: we may call  
this, this place, a beginning, but it is not

the first, nor will it be the last, incident  
in the record: and if you listen  
you can hear their accounts,  
a minim of each single song: the clocks

in the classroom are not yet ticking,  
or at least we can't yet hear their driving  
measures: for now, we only sense the soon  
to arrive, their still potent dreams as yet

unspoken—or unspoken to us.  
When do their stories begin, we ask, and  
I will tell you: all stories have always  
already begun, but they also always

begin now.

## Administrators recognized as innovators

The Utah System of Higher Education's (USHE) newly created biennial Alan E. Hall Innovation Award honored winners from eight public institutions, including two colleagues from Salt Lake Community College.

**Suzanne Mozdy**, associate dean of SLCC's Mathematics Department and **Jason Pickavance**, director of educational initiatives at SLCC, were recognized for their efforts with SLCC's OER (Open Educational Resources), to make affordable online resources more available for classes such as pre-algebra, calculus, trigonometry, college algebra and statistics. "The math department strongly believes in the movement toward affordable

education, and the small contribution we can make is by making textbooks affordable, if not free," Mozdy said.

The awardee or team at each USHE institution received \$10,000, half of which is designated for advancing the innovation being recognized. Utah entrepreneur and investor Alan E. Hall, founder of Tempus Global Data, is funding the annual award for staff and faculty seeking to further initiatives designed to improve undergraduate success. Hall also founded MarketStar Corp., and nonprofit organizations Grow Utah, Grow America and, together with his wife Jeanne, the Alan and Jeanne Hall Foundation, dedicated to helping low-income and impoverished people.



Suzanne Mozdy

## Pickavance visits White House to discuss Open Educational Resources



Jason Pickavance

As the cost of a college education remains prohibitively high for many people, university and college leaders met at a recent White House invitation-only event to discuss how they are using "open educational resources" (OER) to lessen the financial impact on students. The White House's recent Open Education Symposium included Salt Lake Community College's Jason Pickavance, director of educational initiatives and a champion at SLCC of using OER-based courses for a variety of subjects.

"The Salt Lake Community College OER Initiative has saved students over \$750,000 since we started tracking savings in the summer 2014 semester," Pickavance says. "This fall semester we saved students about \$300,000 with about 150 OER sections. We're offering OER-based courses in math, biology, business, education, English, history, sociology and psychology. Our goal is to save SLCC students at least \$3 million over the next three years. We're on track to complete that goal. In the fall of 2016, we should have 300-400 open sections, at least doubling this year's total."

During the White House symposium, school leaders, technology tool providers, state leaders and other stakeholders met with senior administration officials to demonstrate the positive impact that openly licensed educational resources can have on teaching and student learning. "The invitation to the White House event was a recognition of the fact that SLCC is doing exciting things in the open education space," Pickavance said.

## LOGAN ABSTON

# Life – and death – sheds new meaning on graduation for one civically engaged student

**D**isbelief quickly turned to a sense of urgency, and there was no question Logan Abston would visit his dying friend on the eve of graduating from Salt Lake Community College. As a volunteer with Inspiration Hospice, he was informed of her imminent death by a text message. She would become Abston's second end-of-life experience as a hospice volunteer.

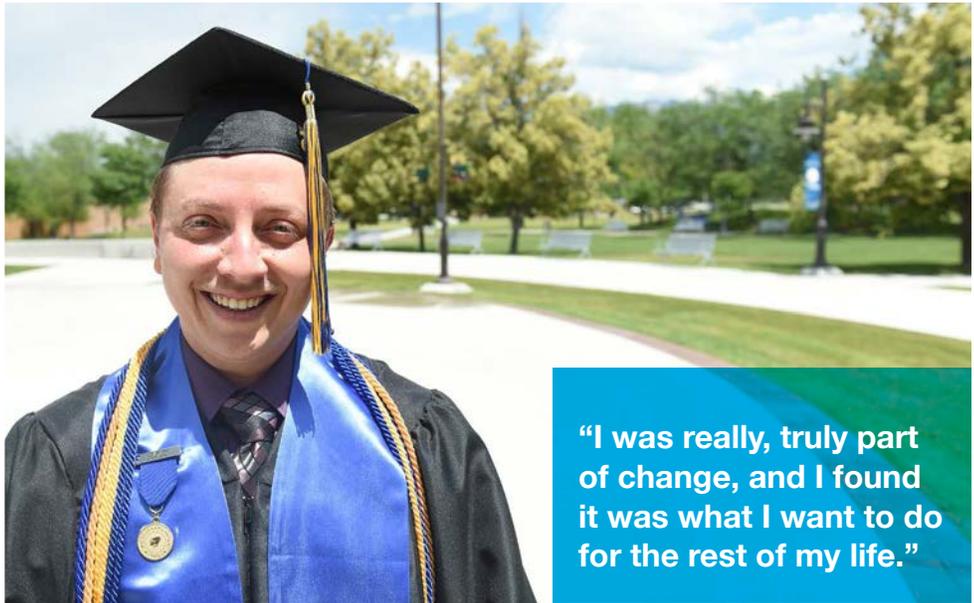
"I was in disbelief, the day before graduation. I thought, 'This can't be happening.'" She was dying of cancer, had no family in town, and Abston during the last eight months often had been her only company outside of the staff at her long-term care facility in Salt Lake City.

He had started donating his time as a hospice volunteer while at SLCC as part of the College's Civically Engaged Scholars program. He thought the program would someday look good on his resume. But his experiences with Inspiration Hospice and other volunteer opportunities through SLCC exceeded his expectations, changed who he was and altered his academic and career aspirations.

## STARTING BEHIND

Abston, 30, grew up in California. There were stretches when his family was homeless. "It was pretty messed up, but we got through it," he said. "It showed me that struggle is important." Living in Fresno, he had tested out of high school at 16 and eventually took some general education classes at a community college. But when a family member died, he put college on hold and went to work full time.

Throughout his 20s, Abston gained experience as a patient technician and a birth doula, a non-medical person who helps a birth mother with physical, emotional and informational support before, during and after giving birth. He also developed an interest in midwifery, moving to Utah when his pregnant sister asked if he would help with the birth. On his Utah Doula Association page, Abston claims to be the state's first male doula



Logan Abston

**"I was really, truly part of change, and I found it was what I want to do for the rest of my life."**

in the organization (the Greek word *doula* denotes a "woman who serves").

## NEW HORIZONS

Once he took root in Utah, Abston decided he wanted to become a certified nurse midwife and women's health practitioner, and earn a bachelor's degree. He enrolled at SLCC, and found Sean Crossland, community partnerships coordinator through the College's Thayne Center, which connects students, staff and faculty with volunteer opportunities. "Sean is an inspiration because he lives a life of inspiration, and he actually cares," Abston said. He took Crossland's Civically Engaged Leader class, and Crossland also encouraged Abston to join Phi Theta Kappa, which recognizes and encourages "scholarly academic excellence among two-year college students." Abston was PTK's chapter president for two semesters.

"Logan's passion and enthusiasm to help make positive changes in the community are evident after one interaction with him," Crossland said. "I really can't say enough good things about him."

## A LIFE OF SERVICE

Because of his involvement with Crossland and the Thayne Center, Abston found a golden opportunity to volunteer with the Maliheh Free Clinic in Salt Lake City. Maliheh provides free medical care to low-income and uninsured clients. "It is beyond anything else I've ever experienced, and it opened my eyes to see that I wasn't just a person talking the talk or just saying volunteering is great. I was really, truly part of change, and I found it was what I want to do for the rest of my life."

While working in patient care at Maliheh and with the birthing process as a doula, Abston began to wonder about the dynamic between entering and leaving the world. In both cases, people are screaming or crying, stoic, having trouble breathing, afraid, spiritual – the emotions and physical responses, he noted, run the gamut. In August 2014, he started with Inspiration Hospice, where he learned about its 11th Hour program that places volunteers with families and patients when someone appears to be within 48 hours of passing away. After his

first experience with 11th Hour, Abston pondered his choices as a student at a community college, how he initially was just trying to get a leg up on his career by being involved in a civic program, and that he was in fact fortunate to be part of such a powerful experience, to be a stranger invited into a sacred space at an emotional time. “It definitely registered with me that this is a big deal,” he said. His next 11th Hour request would come the night before graduating from SLCC.

#### A DYING FRIEND

After receiving the text message about his friend, he knew his “shift” began at 10 p.m. The woman he’d been visiting had been moved to a different room. “We had become very close,” he said. It was a bit shocking to see her for the first time that night. She was no longer on oxygen. Her hair was a mess. Abston didn’t have a comb or brush. He used his fingers to gently work out the tangles. He kept talking to her, even though she was unresponsive. “I’m glad that I’m here for you,” Abston told her, with no one else in the room. He brought Neil Gaiman’s collection of short fiction “Trigger Warning” to read to his friend. He kept a hand on her arm, checking the temperature of her skin and just letting her know that he was there.

As the minutes ticked by, Abston said what he needed to say before his friend passed. “I told her that I always liked her nose and that I was glad we had gotten to know each other, and that I thought she was a really great person,” he said. Only 45 minutes had passed when his friend appeared to look up and brought her arms toward her chest. “I put my hand on her shoulder and said, ‘It’s okay. Everything’s fine.’” And, alone with his friend, he watched her let out one last breath. He stayed with her for a while longer, did what is required of hospice volunteers and drove back to his apartment in Salt Lake City.

#### SLCC GRADUATION

The next day, Abston was beaming, dressed in a cap and gown, walking across the stage at the Maverik Center in West Valley City with hundreds of other graduates. Somehow, the day seemed a little different than what he had expected. “It felt more important,” Abston said. “I was so glad that I had been able to be there for her.”

## ROSARIO BIBIANO-GARCIA

# PACE Job shadowing helps students

**E**ast High School senior Rosario Bibiano-Garcia figured she’d just relax this past summer, thinking maybe she’d forget about school for a little while. Instead, for three days in June she was in and out of classrooms and offices at Salt Lake Community College, job shadowing as part of the Partnerships for Accessing College Education (PACE) program.

PACE is a partnership between local high schools, businesses and SLCC. It serves qualifying students by awarding



East High School senior Rosario Bibiano-Garcia tries her hand at photography while job shadowing through PACE.

two-year scholarships to SLCC at the end of the program. Students can enter the PACE program as high school freshmen if they have at least a 2.5 GPA, 90 percent or more “on-time” attendance and are “low income, first generation and/or underrepresented in higher education.” Participants in PACE are required to attend at least one summer program activity before their senior year, which is how Bibiano-Garcia ended up job shadowing at SLCC, and other businesses.

“At first I was like, ‘It’s summer, why do I have to do this?’” she said about her initial reaction. “Then I thought, I will be experiencing things I won’t be able to do anywhere else – so, it’s worth it. Plus, it’s only three days.” And for those three

days she was able to talk to and work with graphic designers, photographers, instructors and professionals who exposed her to career possibilities different from her current aspiration to become an interior designer. “I’ve learned a lot, especially since not knowing about the subjects I was shadowing,” Bibiano-Garcia said. “I learned you really need to have a network and that personality is important. You need to be outgoing, talk to people, be social.” To other students curious about job shadowing, she would recommend it even if the subjects they’re shadowing don’t reflect their current career choices. “You will gain something from it.”

**“I will be experiencing things I won’t be able to do anywhere else.”**

People like Sandy-based Bohme Boutique owner Fernanda Bohme-Birkland, who volunteered to show PACE participants around, had a deep emotional connection to being shadowed. She is a graduate of SLCC’s Fashion Institute and became teary at a meeting with other volunteers, PACE employees and SLCC advisor and volunteer coordinator Will ‘Unga. “You mentioned these kids are underprivileged,” she told ‘Unga. “That was me – we were the poorest immigrants you could ever imagine. And I had zero help. This program gives opportunities to people who have talent and opens their eyes to what they can do in this country if they just believe. I had to make my own opportunities, and no one hand fed me anything.”

PACE advisor Monica Gomez Rogerson told volunteers that the shadowing is part of students’ growth in PACE, that they’d be nervous being on a job site for the first time but that they’d be grateful for the opportunity. While Bibiano-Garcia didn’t appear at all nervous – in fact, she was curious, assertive, helpful and enthusiastic as she learned new skills – she was thankful.

## SLCC'S 'UNA MANO AMIGA' RECEIVES INNOVATION AWARD

The Salt Lake Community College Academic and Career Advisors peer-mentoring program, "Una Mano Amiga," was selected this past fall for the 2015 NASPA Region V Innovative Program Award. NASPA (National Association of Student Personnel Administrators) is the leading association for the advancement, health and sustainability of the student affairs profession.

Una Mano Amiga (A Friendly Hand) began at SLCC in 2011 and has since assisted more than 830 Latino students to become mentors and leaders and has guided them under the motto "Learn, Grow and Share." The program enhances the services that Academic Advising provides to Latino students at SLCC.

"There are many peer mentoring



LEFT TO RIGHT: Geraldina Palma Carias, Luz Gamarra, Dr. Sonia Parker and Elizete Bond.

programs, but no one has a model based on the strength of a culture," said Dr. Sonia Parker, SLCC Director of Academic and Career Advising. "This is a culture that embraces collectivism, appreciation, social relationships and family values. Peer leadership skills

are developed as participants help others. The NASPA award strengthens staff and administrators in our efforts to empower students to become full participants in their academic planning, career goals and lifelong learning."

## ASSOCIATE PROVOST NAMED CHAMBER ATHENA WINNER

The Salt Lake Chamber named Salt Lake Community College's Karen Gunn as the 2015 ATHENA Award recipient. Gunn recently retired as SLCC Associate Provost of Economic



Karen Gunn

Development and Business Partnerships and the Executive Director of SLCC's Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program.

"Karen Gunn has shared her amazing talents and knowledge with SLCC in the classroom, in the School of Business, and most recently at our Miller campus, leading small business

support and training efforts including the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program," said SLCC President Denece G. Huftalin. "She is a bright, engaging, passionate leader who has had an enormous impact on Utah's business community. We salute her alongside the Chamber."

The ATHENA Award is a prestigious national award presented annually to an active member of the Salt Lake Chamber who demonstrates excellence, creativity and initiative in business. Each recipient must also provide valuable service by devoting time and energy to improve the quality of life for others in the community and assist women in reaching their full leadership potential.

"I cannot think of a more deserving recipient," said Lane Beattie, President and CEO of the Salt Lake Chamber.

"Gunn has over 30 years' experience as an educator, corporate manager and entrepreneur. Besides having an astonishingly successful career, Karen has helped numerous other women achieve their dreams. We couldn't be more excited to honor her as the newest ATHENA."

In the time Gunn has overseen 10,000 Small Businesses at SLCC, Goldman Sachs has helped provide practical business and management education, support services and capital to 215 Utah entrepreneurs, with 76 percent reporting increased revenues within 18 months after graduating and 57 percent saying they have added new jobs in that same time period. Recently, three cohorts graduated, with 93 business owners employing 1,611 people and representing over \$145 million in revenues in Utah.

## SLCC STUDENTS WIN GOLD AT SKILLSUSA CONFERENCE



LEFT TO RIGHT: Seth Johnson, Jason Groce, Deric Yoakam and R.J. Beckstead.

Salt Lake Community College students brought home four gold medals in the 51st annual SkillsUSA National Skill and Leadership Conference, held earlier this year in Louisville, Kentucky. SLCC had 16 students participate in 11 categories in what is called the country's largest collegiate job skills competition.

"Our students who competed in SkillsUSA exhibited the highest level of training and education, which reflects well on their experience at Salt Lake Community College," said Ralph Tasker, SLCC interim Associate Dean for the Division of Technical Specialties. "We congratulate each of them and the

many great faculty members who taught and trained them."

SLCC won gold medals in web design, 3-D visualization and animation, screen-printing technology and in the "TeamWorks" division, and a silver medal in advertising design. More than 6,000 students participated in the weeklong June event that included 100 occupational and leadership skill areas.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. The organization serves more than 300,000 students each year through 53 state and territorial associations.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT NAMED NEW CENTURY SCHOLAR

How does an older student from another country, in this case 41-year-old Salt Lake Community College student David Godoy from Venezuela, beat out students half his age for one of this year's coveted Coca-Cola New Century Scholar awards? "I never give up," Godoy says. "I go forward with faith and never get discouraged."

Godoy was the top-scoring applicant from Utah among more than 1,700 applications nationally for one of the 2015 New Century Scholar awards. Originally from Maracaibo in the northwest tip of Venezuela, Godoy is married with four children and has his sights set on getting a PhD someday in manufacturing or industrial engineering. But first, he will earn an associate's degree. "I realized that SLCC had an excellent balance between price and education received, with several options to choose from in the

engineering area," Godoy says. "I also had the chance to study English as a Second Language before beginning my major without taking the TOEFL (a proficiency test for non-native English speakers), and that was a huge advantage."

To qualify for the scholarship, Godoy needed to be a member of the honor society Phi Theta Kappa, which this year is holding its annual convention in San Antonio, where Godoy and other winners are being recognized for academic achievement, leadership, service and "a response to a significant endeavor."

Godoy, who has won three other scholarships, said the \$2,000 award is a big help. "Because of political problems in my country, it is very difficult to transfer funds from my country to this country. So, it was really good to receive this good news."



David Godoy and family

## WORKERS COMPENSATION FUND HONORS SLCC WITH SAFETY AWARD

Salt Lake Community College was one of 16 Utah companies that received top safety awards during the Workers Compensation Fund Safety Summit.

From construction and trucking to manufacturing and municipal services, the winners of the 2015 WCF Charles A. Caine Workplace Safety Awards are a diverse group of Utah-based businesses with a common commitment to safety. The honorees practice similar safety management

tactics, including written safety plans, regular safety training, accident analysis, employee involvement in the safety process and incentive programs.

"The importance of workplace safety cannot be underestimated—every effort Utah companies make to protect their workers helps protect individuals and families from injury, pain, financial hardship and more," said Ray Pickup, WCF president and CEO. "We applaud these award-winning companies who lead the way in workplace safety."

## BENDT AWARDED ASSISTANT COACH OF THE YEAR IN NJCAA DIVISION

The National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) recently announced its recipients of the 2015 Assistant Coach of the Year Awards, and the award for NJCAA Division I went to Salt Lake Community College Assistant Coach Tara Bendt.

Bendt's contributions to the program helped SLCC hold a No. 1 ranking for four weeks during the season and carried that into the National Championship Tournament. Along with her duties as recruiting coordinator and as an outfield and slapping coach, Bendt plays a critical role as the team motivator through various channels before or during practice or whenever she feels it is needed.

Her hard work on the recruiting trail has allowed Bendt and head coach Cyndee Bennett to open up recruiting in several states and form relationships with many four-year schools. Also on her plate is marketing of the program,



Tara Bendt

which involves social media, player of the week nominations and getting (SLCC) softball information out to the public in a timely fashion.

## MOORE NAMED DISTINGUISHED FACULTY LECTURER



Dr. Ted Moore

This year's Salt Lake Community College Distinguished Faculty Lecturer, Dr. Ted Moore, received his PhD from Michigan State University in American history with a focus on the urban environment. Moore taught at several institutions before arriving at Salt Lake Community College in 2009. He specializes in urban and environmental history.

A dedicated teacher, Moore is committed to elevating the academic quality and rigor in the classroom with an eye toward helping his students to better compete in the world.

Moore is an award-winning author. Among his most notable publications are "Democratizing the Air: The Salt Lake Women's Chamber of Commerce and Air Pollution, 1936-1945." The article won Best History Article Award from the Utah State Historical Society. He also wrote "Fast Revolutions: Bicycles, Paved Roads, and the Creation of a Middle-Class City in Salt Lake, 1890-1903" and "Speed Merchants: The History of Professional Cycling in Salt Lake City, 1898-1914," both of which were selected by the Utah State Historical Society as Editor's Choice for Best Article. In his personal life, Moore enjoys cycling.

## STUDENT WINS HUMANITARIAN AWARD AND SCHOLARSHIP

**S**alt Lake Community College student Israel Santana earlier this year received the 2015 Youthlinc Utah Young Humanitarian Award and a \$5,000 scholarship through the sponsoring nonprofit Youthlinc, the largest service-based scholarship program in the state.

The award recognizes Santana's involvement for the past six years with the Mestizo Arts & Activism Collective (MAA), helping to empower youth on Salt Lake City's west side to become community leaders. In high school, he used poetry and photography at MAA to share his experiences growing up a west sider, where drug and gang activity could have steered Santana from his academic path. "If it hadn't been for the Mestizo Arts and Activism Collective, I would have either been in



Israel Santana, center, receives humanitarian award.

prison or dead," he said. As a college student, he has been mentoring younger students about the value of education. Santana is quoted on the Youthlinc website: "My leadership in Salt Lake City has focused on empowering young people of color to pursue a higher education, become politically aware, and maintain a sense of pride in their cultures, all while

pursuing positive social change."

Santana's plan is to finish at SLCC and transfer to the University of Utah next spring. One of the scholarship contest judges, Peter Ingle, Westminster College Dean of the School of Education, said, "Israel is going to change the world."

Youthlinc Local Service Director Jerika Mays said the award is important because it "celebrates young people who excel at giving back in their community in hopes of inspiring more youth to volunteer." The annual scholarship offerings of \$5,000; \$3,000 (runner-up); \$1,000 (three awards); and \$500 (five awards), are funded by the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation, the Robert D. Kent Jr. Trust and by Shaun Michel. For more information, visit [youthlinc.org](http://youthlinc.org).

## COLLEGE RECEIVES \$2.8 MILLION TO HELP DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS

**S**alt Lake Community College was awarded two TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) grants by the Department of Education to benefit disabled, low-income and first-generation students. TRIO is a set of federally funded college opportunity programs that motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds in their pursuits of college degrees. A total of 790,000 low-income, first-generation students and students with disabilities – from sixth grade through college graduation – are served by over 2,800 programs nationally.

The \$2.8 million in federal funds for TRIO SSS programs at SLCC will provide participants with personalized

academic tutoring, counseling, mentoring, financial guidance and other support to improve educational retention, completion and transfer. These services are especially needed for low-income and first-generation students, who often face significant financial and social barriers to college.

To maximize benefits to participants and improve the likelihood of success, SLCC designed the programs to utilize and identify best practices. The SSS programs have been designed to strategically interact with other effective support programs at the College, such as First Year Experience, Bridge to Success and InnoVaBio.

## SLCC WINS BUSINESS AWARD

**T**he nonprofit Columbus, a South Salt Lake-based agency that supports people with disabilities, recently honored Salt Lake Community College with its Business Partner of the Year award. The honor recognizes SLCC for working with Columbus to promote vocational opportunities for people with disabilities within the business community.

SLCC was given the award during Columbus' 10th annual Dignity Through Work recognition event. The SLCC Facilities Services Department has awarded grounds maintenance and custodial contracts to Columbus, which in turn has allowed Columbus to provide vocational training and employment opportunities to individuals with disabilities.



SLCC's natural gas-powered garbage truck.

## College's vehicle fleet getting greener all the time

**T**hey're like two boys sharing a new toy car, prone to saying things like, "Ooh, this is so cool! Watch what it does!" But Rand Webb and Edward Benson aren't talking about toys. They're talking about Salt Lake Community College's commitment to alternative-fuel vehicles. They often finish each other's sentences or talk over one another. "He's the scientist guy," Benson says, "and I'm the nuts-and-bolts guy." Webb calls Benson the "fleet guy" and himself the "EPA guy." But the subject - a greener fleet of vehicles - is, well, pretty cool.

These days, Webb, who used to work with the federal Environmental Protection Agency and the state Department of Environmental Quality on cleaning up polluted sites, is the environmental and health safety manager at SLCC, and Benson is the College's fleet and logistics coordinator. Together, with support of SLCC administrators, they're turning SLCC's fleet of about 135 vehicles into a "green"

battalion of environmentally friendly transportation. They have cars, pickups, a new garbage truck, a lawnmower and even a forklift that run on compressed natural gas (CNG), electricity, ethanol or



Edward Benson hooks up a Nissan Leaf to a charging station.

a mix of gasoline and electricity. It means the College is doing what Webb calls the "right thing," by emitting fewer pollutants into Salt Lake Valley's already oft-polluted air.

The shift in thinking about what kinds of cars to purchase for SLCC's fleet didn't happen overnight. That's because going "green" is sometimes

more expensive, especially when it comes to vehicles. "We had to convince (administrators) that it's the environmentally proper thing to do," Webb said. "If you're thinking we're saving money by doing this, we're not. It's an air quality issue - we're doing the right thing. We feel like it's worth the money to have 85 percent less tailpipe exhaust and to contribute that much less to greenhouse gasses."

While SLCC is going the extra mile with cleaner vehicles, the state is pushing the issue, demanding that half of all vehicles purchased for the state fleet rely on alternative fuels such as CNG. All state fleet vehicles are expected to be running on alternative fuels by 2019. Benson figures SLCC is ahead of the game with about 37 percent of its fleet running on CNG. While CNG refilling stations were once in short supply, there are now about 45 CNG sites throughout Utah, including seven in the Salt Lake City area. One of those stations is located on the SLCC

Taylorsville Redwood Campus. "It's cheaper, it's cleaner and it's domestic," Webb says about the CNG station on campus. "We're buying a domestic product that Questar pumps out of the ground in Evanston. No matter what you think about global warming, is it wrong to have less greenhouse gas?" A CNG-powered vehicle also requires one third less maintenance than a typical gasoline vehicle.

SLCC also owns several hybrid vehicles that run on gas and electricity, including four Toyota Priuses and two Toyota Camries. Benson and Webb recently welcomed two fully electric Nissan Leafs into the fleet. Webb can monitor from a computer



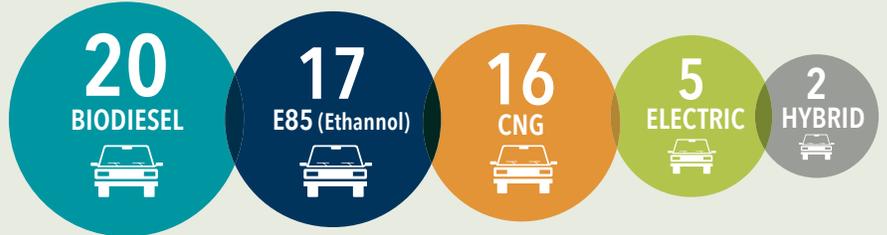
Rand Webb demonstrates how to use the charging station for electric cars.

on his desk just how the Leafs are performing with energy consumption and curbing emissions, and they can be plugged in to recharge at a station outside his office. "SLCC has been a pioneer in this," Benson said. "We have stepped ahead and done a lot of pre-planning, and support from administration has been fantastic. We've been a step ahead of all other (state) schools." Benson said that in the next few years, over half of all vehicles in SLCC's fleet will run on alternative fuels.

# SLCC's GREEN FLEET

**43** - Percent of SLCC's fleet that uses alternative fuels

Vehicles:



SLCC electric vehicle facts from June 15 to Nov. 11, 2015:



**140**  
Gallons of gas saved



**6**  
Electric port/recharge locations:  
2 at Gundersen & Facilities,  
2 at AAB, 2 at South City



**1,115 kwh**  
Amount of energy used  
by electric vehicles



**468**  
Kilograms of greenhouse  
gases not released into  
atmosphere



**300**  
Number of times private and  
SLCC-owned electric vehicles  
recharged at six ports on two  
campuses



**2 free hours**  
to recharge at SLCC electric  
ports; \$10/hour after that

E85 fact:



This **85** percent ethanol fuel emits fewer hydrocarbons into the air

Biodiesel fact:



Made from vegetable oil and animal fats, this biodegradable fuel emits less sulfur.

CNG facts:

SLCC CNG vehicles save **9,500** gallons of gasoline a year

The College's CNG garbage truck alone saves **2,400** gallons of gasoline a year

**85** percent fewer tailpipe emissions



## Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses yields success at SLCC

**A** new national impact study from Babson College shows that the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program administered in Utah through Salt Lake Community College is among the more successful business education and training programs in the country.

Within six months of graduation, Salt Lake business owners who have completed the program outpace the national averages for revenue increases and job growth for their companies. Program research showed that 70.2 percent of participating businesses in Utah reported an increase in revenue within six months of starting the program, compared with 68 percent nationally. In that same time period, the report showed that 47.9 percent of business owners added jobs, compared with 46.2 percent nationally. In addition, the national impact study shows that 18 months after graduation, 76 percent of participants reported increases in their revenues and 57 percent reported creating net new jobs. Finally, the program has a 99 percent graduation rate and 84 percent of graduates are doing some form of business with each other.

“Salt Lake Community College is fortunate to be part of such an impactful program as 10,000 Small Businesses,” said SLCC President Dr. Denece G. Huftalin. “The success of the program is evident in the numbers, a quantifiable portrait of a return on investment that reflects well on the local economy and on the state as a whole.”

Nationally, the 10,000 Small Businesses program started in 2009 and, with more than 125 partners and affiliate organizations, has helped nearly 5,000 small business owners through 25 United States and Great Britain sites and a national blended learning program. A \$500 million investment by Goldman Sachs and the Goldman Sachs Foundation



Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses participants attend graduation.

supports the project in partnership with Babson College and the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City. Local partners in Utah include the Utah Governor’s Office of Economic Development, Salt Lake Community College, Mountain West Small Business Finance, and the Utah State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

“Utah’s performance numbers reflect the dedication of the local Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program team and key stakeholder partners in our state to providing one of the best environments in the country for growing small

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*“The success of the program is evident in the numbers.”*

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businesses,” said Karen Gunn, Executive Director of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program at SLCC.

Since the program began in Utah in 2013, seven cohorts representing 215 business owners have successfully completed the program. Recent graduate Angela Brown, editor and publisher of Utah-based SLUG Magazine, said she knew immediately after being accepted as a 10,000 Small Businesses scholar into Cohort 5 that she would “never be the same.” And results soon followed. “Since completing the program, I have overcome my fear of asking for money,” she said at graduation in June. “I’ve taken out a line of credit. I have hired four new full-time employees and identified a revenue stream that will triple SLUG’s annual revenue



Incorporate Massage founder and CEO Amelia Wilcox.

over the next three years.” Brown was one of 93 scholars in three cohorts to graduate from the program in Utah in 2015. Combined, those businesses employ 1,611 people and represent a total of \$145 million dollars in annual revenue.

## Refugees ask governor for continued support on SLCC campus

Utah Gov. Gary Herbert and first lady Jeanette Herbert recently learned how refugees who start in other states end up in Utah, because of the way they're treated and the resources they're offered in the Beehive State. In November, they visited Salt Lake Community College's Meadowbrook Campus, home to the Utah Refugee Education and Training Center. Many refugees told Herbert that the center is like a second home, that it connects them with employers, has resources to help them learn English, and provides a place to gain the skills and education they need to get jobs and pursue a better life.

"Your stories are impressive," Herbert told refugees at the center. "We follow what's taking place here, and on behalf of the 3 million people of Utah, we want you to know that you're welcome. We're honored to have you here. We're glad you somehow have chosen Utah as your home."

An estimated 60,000 refugees from around the world live in Utah. Many seek help with assimilating into the Utah job market and culture through the center, which represents a partnership between higher education, the private sector and state government, including the Utah Department of Workforce Services.

Refugee and SLCC student Zakiya Ali called the center home. "You have people to help you understand life here," she said. "The culture and society is different." Refugees, she added, can rely on

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*"We're honored to have you here. We're glad you somehow have chosen Utah as your home."*

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translators at the center to help them feel more comfortable and confident so that they will take a chance to get a job and become part of society.

Community activist Pamela Atkinson reminded Herbert about his first inaugural speech when he spoke of the importance of public and private partnerships. She



Gov. Gary Herbert and first lady Jeanette Herbert pose with refugees.



Gov. Gary Herbert listens to refugees talk about the value of the Utah Refugee Education and Training Center.

called the success of the center the epitome of that kind of partnership. "I would like to say how enormously proud we are of you," she told refugees. "You have enriched our lives. You have shared your culture with us, and we have learned so much from you. And we are glad in some small way to pay back a little of what you have given us under the leadership of Gov. Herbert."

As the governor and his wife toured parts of the SLCC campus and refugee center, they learned about the resources available to refugees. SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin talked briefly about programs at the campus such as

composites, warehousing and aerospace that are available for refugees.

Herbert said that the center is a place for refugees to gather, learn and improve their lives. "It's the helping hand up, not just a helping hand," he said. "The work ethic you bring is certainly welcome here in Utah. We want to help you help yourself. We promise you here in Utah that you will have opportunities. We're just honored here to have you as part of Utah. You add a significant blessing to our community with your presence. We will come back more than once a year."



Female veterans pose in gowns made by SLCC fashion students.

## Students bring fashion to female veterans

**F**rom a 23-year-old soldier to an 84-year-old Korean War vet, 15 female veterans from all branches of the military recently were treated to new custom-designed gowns made by students of Salt Lake Community College's Fashion Institute. In recognition of Veterans Day, the gowns were modeled by the vets during the annual Women Veterans Celebration, featuring the "Grit To Glamour: Warrior To Woman" fashion show at Zions Bank in Salt Lake City. SLCC students also provided hair and makeup services for the veterans, and organized the fashion show.

Design student Charlie Fratto, 22, made a dress for Air Force Senior Airman Amanda Turner, who has worked with wounded soldiers at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. "Being a veteran," she says, "means stepping up to the call to honor those who have served and offered their lives for this country." Fratto designed Turner's floor-length gold gown with full sleeves and a high neckline. All of the veterans were able to keep the dresses they wore in the fashion show.

Fratto didn't hesitate when SLCC Fashion Institute Director Mojdeh Sakaki asked for volunteers to be involved in the project. "I was like, 'Yes, sign me up—I

want to do this.' If I can use my talents to say 'Thank you,' then it makes me so happy." Fratto said Turner, a 25-year-old mother, allowed him to design using his "aesthetic" with an eye toward outfitting a strong, confident woman. He was grateful for the experience of working directly with a "client" in a real-world setting outside of the classroom environment. "She was such a great sport about everything," Fratto said. "It turned out absolutely beautiful, but she also feels great in the dress — and as long as she feels beautiful, then I'm happy."

Sakaki told veterans that students worked long hours volunteering to make the dresses. "I appreciate the opportunity for our students to be able to serve you," she said. "You have served our country, and we have been able to give back to you a little bit." Sakaki said each dress took six or seven fittings to get it just right. "I'm very proud of them," she said. "I'm proud they wanted to give, that they wanted to make a difference. And as beautiful as these ladies are on the inside, we can see that they are beautiful on the outside as well."

Earlier in the evening, SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin said beauty is more than what we see in the mirror. "The female veterans here tonight represent the nearly 15 percent of active duty



SLCC fashion design student Charlie Fratto (left) made the gown Air Force Senior Airman Amanda Turner is wearing.

military members who are women, and the population of female veterans grows more every day," Huftalin said. "Brave, courageous women are today reaching some of the highest levels of command in the military, weaving what I might describe as a unique hybrid of beauty throughout the fabric of our male-dominated armed forces."

## Navy rear admiral visits SLCC campuses

**N**avy Rear Admiral Richard P. Snyder wrote in an op-ed prior to his visit to Salt Lake Community College's Veterans Center that Utah's higher education and business community is helping provide the type of research for innovations the Navy needs for weapons, ships, submarines and aircraft. "Our nation needs a strong and ready Navy, and a strong and ready Navy needs the people of Utah," Snyder wrote.

The op-ed and his visit to SLCC coincided this past September with Navy Week, during which representatives of the Navy fanned out to 12 cities across the country to share what today's Navy is doing. "It's also a chance to come out and thank the people of Utah for their support of our Navy and veterans," Snyder said.

"You can have great facilities, computers, printers, but at the end of the day it's the dedicated people who are sitting here day in and day out to support our veterans, and that's what's most impressive."

Ten years ago, the center started with 178 square feet and helped less than 20 graduates. In 2014, more than 200 vets (the biggest class of vets yet) graduated, and 189 vets graduated in 2015. SLCC's Veterans Services has facilities at the Taylorsville Redwood and South City campuses. Staff members are available to educate vets and their dependents about education benefits, scholarships and how to apply for admission to SLCC, which this year again made the Military Times Best for Vets: Colleges 2016 rankings.



Navy Rear Admiral Richard P. Snyder meets and greets staff, faculty and students at SLCC's Veterans Services center.



## VA taps successful veterans center for open house



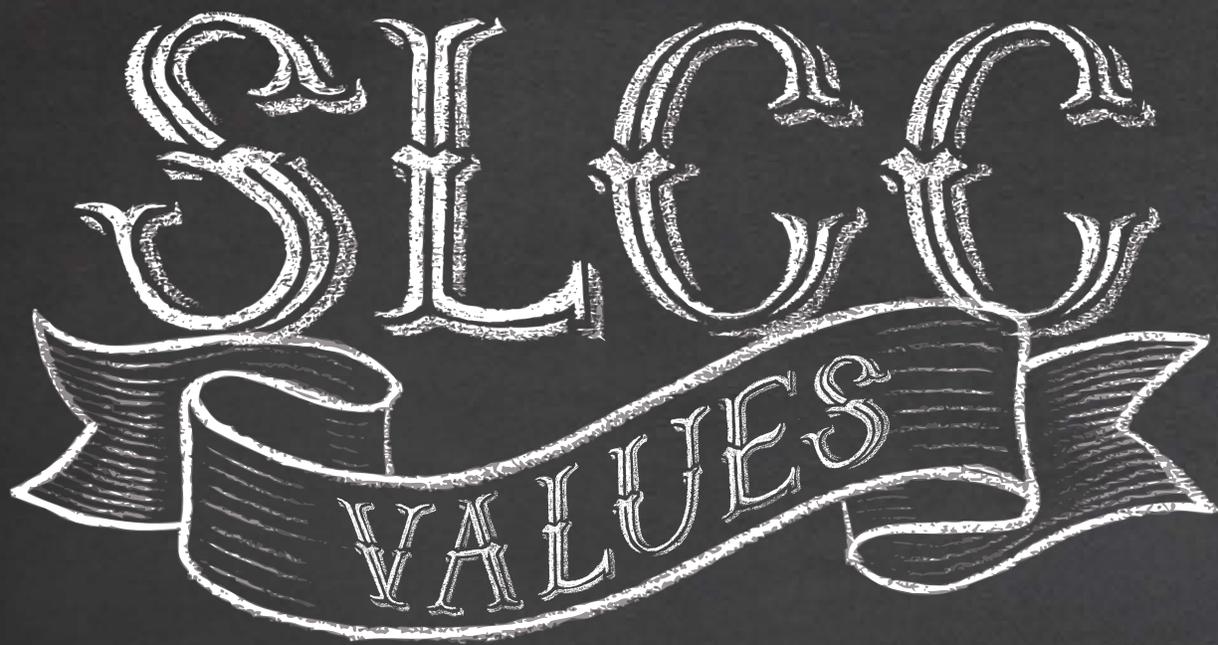
Students learn about services offered to veterans.

**T**he Veterans Administration's Office of Field Operations this fall recognized Salt Lake Community College's VetSuccess on Campus (VSOC) program as one of 10 top-performing campuses chosen to hold open houses that showcased services provided by Veterans Services offices.

The recent open house at SLCC hosted representatives from 17 service providers that included the Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs, GoArmyEd's Education Services, the American Red Cross, Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership and the Utah National Guard. Almost 100 veterans and dependents attended the event.

"The open house was such a success, and so many of our veterans were served by holding this event. To have the VA see the success of our partnership is an honor," said Darlene Head, SLCC manager of Veterans Services. "It is important for us to successfully work in partnership with the VA to best serve our student veterans. I am honored to be in partnership with them."

VSOC vocational rehabilitation counselors provide academic and vocational guidance to vets, connecting them to other VA benefits that include health care and mental health services. Counselors also help service members, veterans and dependents apply for medical and nonmedical benefits.



In August, Salt Lake Community College President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin asked SLCC staff and faculty to write down – or in some cases draw – what they value at the College and then pose for a photo with their words and art. As part of a collegewide strategic planning process throughout fall semester, more than 80 people participated in what became known as the “SLCC Values” photography project that portrayed a broad spectrum of institutional values that were absorbed into the planning process.









Students from area high schools receive lessons at the controls of the CRJ700 simulator.



## NEW **CRJ700 JET** SIMULATOR TAKING OFF AT WESTPOINTE

**S**alt Lake Community College President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin and her cabinet have piloted it. So have a bunch of high school students. And the great equalizer has been that the CRJ700, even though it's a simulator, is pretty hard to land for a novice at the controls for the first time.

Under the direction of copilot and assistant professor Erwin Zundel, a typical landing in the simulator can go about like this one, which features a high school student at the controls and Zundel doing the talking:

*Keep the nose down.*

*Power back.*

*Keep coming back with it.*

*Give yourself full flaps.*

*Line yourself up with the runway.*

*When he calls '500 feet' change the position of your nose.*

*Hands on the throttle – we're all going to die (laughter follows).*

*Start raising the nose up.*

*Head toward the runway.*

*Looking good.*

*Nose coming down.*

*Gently pull back on the yoke.*

*Pull back! Pull back!*

*No! Ooooh! (pause)*

*Not bad.*

The student crashed the plane – but, again, it's only a simulator.

President Huftalin's takeoff was a little shaky, to say the least. But she nailed her landing during the President's Challenge event in October, when every cabinet member took turns in the simulator while trying to best each other. Dr. Roderic Land, special assistant to the president, walked away with the first-place trophy for having the smoothest and most successful takeoff and landing. "I look at the experience as kind of a metaphor for life, school or your career," Huftalin said. "Sometimes, with a new beginning, we have a rough takeoff. But once we learn the controls and get comfortable in the air, the whole world opens up as to where and how we can land. Some of our students are literally learning to fly with this



Special Assistant to the President Dr. Roderic Land takes control of the simulator.



School of Technical Specialties Dean Rick Bouillon explains the simulator to SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin.

amazing new simulator; others are learning to fly in their own career fields."

The purpose of having the cabinet and, high school students try out the simulator is to raise awareness – and a few eyebrows – about the new technology being used at SLCC's Westpointe Center. ESP Inc. (Engineering Support Personnel) purchased the once-mothballed simulator from a university, completely rebuilt it and in 2015 sold it to SLCC for about \$250,000.

"It has the latest version of Lockheed Martin's software," said Jim Williams, who worked with ESP to get the simulator running at SLCC. "We're using the most modern technology that can go into this simulator. When it comes to a community college level, you are far superior than most. This really is a very sophisticated trainer. I think SLCC is fortunate to have found the means to install this system here. It will give you an edge up as being a leading college in providing jet transition training."

The goal now is to develop a curriculum that will allow future pilots to transition from training on a single propeller system to a more sophisticated, complex commercial jet craft with the simulator. The actual CRJ700

aircraft costs about \$25 million, seats up to 78 people and is typically used by a smaller regional airline like SkyWest. It's expected the simulator will be a regional and even national draw for pilots who are preparing to test for the FAA's Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) license toward becoming certified to fly bigger jets. Students will likely spend about 10 hours using the simulator before taking

***"Sometimes, with a new beginning, we have a rough takeoff. But once we learn the controls and get comfortable in the air, the whole world opens up."***

the ATP test. "We should be ready by spring to offer a class utilizing the CRJ700," said Gillette Samms, associate dean over the professional pilot program at Westpointe. "It fills quite a unique void." Samms said demand for pilots is on the rise as more and more people travel. SLCC's simulator adds an element of training that airlines seek when looking to hire experienced candidates to fly jets.



High school students taking aviation courses try out the simulator.

Chris Johnson in 2014 earned an associate's degree in SLCC's pilot program after serving in the Army for five years, with two tours in Iraq as an explosive ordnance disposal technician. "Ever since I was a kid, I always wanted to be a pilot," said Johnson, 28, who grew up in South Ogden. "I used to watch planes take off and land at Hill Air Force Base." He still remembers taking the controls of a plane for the first time. "It was awesome," he said. "It's like getting addicted to a drug. I was just addicted. It's like nothing else." Johnson was hired first by Cornerstone Aviation, the fixed-wing flight school used by SLCC, and then he started at SLCC as an adjunct instructor. These days he flies small jets for a firm in Phoenix. He said SLCC's new simulator will give students a chance to see and control the type of systems they will encounter on larger jets.

Granite Technical Institute teacher Carl Readicker brought a group of high school students in an aviation program to try out the new simulator, which is a bit bigger than the Cessna trainer they had been using. The goal is to keep bringing young students to the cockpit of the CRJ700. "It gives them an idea of where they're going from here," Readicker said. "This is absolutely incredible.

This is an opportunity for students to go up to the next level in their training and to advance beyond a regular trainer and to see what opportunities lie ahead for them."

Olympus High School student Zachary Nelson, 17, took a turn at the simulator. "I would love any job that would give me the ability to fly a plane," Nelson said. "Even if it was crop dusting, I would just love to fly in the air." He loved piloting the CRJ700, compared to flying in a smaller simulator. "I felt like it had more power," he said. "It was scary, exciting and all around amazing." Shenille Fiack, 17, of Taylorsville High School, was equally impressed. "It was crazy," Fiack said. "I thought it was amazing. The opportunity was fantastic, that we could come up here and get the opportunity to fly something different than what we fly at school." Fiack already has her sights set on joining the Air Force, becoming a fighter pilot and someday flying one of the most important jets in the world. "I want to be on Air Force One," she said. "That's my dream."



Disability Resource Center Assistant Director Steven Lewis gives a thumbs up to the new grow boxes.

## SLCC's newest community garden helps stock campus food pantry



On a small lot where an old dilapidated house once stood near Salt Lake Community College's South City Campus, 20 grow boxes yielded fresh vegetables for low-income students who used the campus' food pantry.

SLCC bought the old house along 1700 South, demolished it and paved the way for the College's third plot for a community garden – the other two are near the Taylorsville and Jordan campuses. At the South City site, Grainger Industrial Supply donated money toward the project, and staffers at nearby Whittier Elementary School and South City Campus Daycare pitched in some sweat equity.

The idea for a community garden at South City came from SLCC Community Partnerships Coordinator Sean Crossland and the College's Disability Resource Center Assistant Director Steven Lewis, who helped start the other two gardens. The boxes were quickly spoken for and by September and October growers were twice a week helping to stock the food pantry at South City with fresh produce.

# Naomi Klein brings climate change topic to SLCC



Author and journalist Naomi Klein autographs books for students at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus.

This November, journalist and author Naomi Klein told more than 800 people at Salt Lake Community College's Grand Theatre that until about six years ago she had been writing books, which she calls "ammo for activists," about economic justice, human rights, labor abuses, free trade and privatization, and that she "outsourced" the subject of climate change to "green groups." She went further and said people would rather watch "cat videos" online than read a story about melting glaciers.

Klein appeared at the Grand as part of the Tanner Forum on Social Ethics, presented by a generous gift from the O.C. Tanner Charitable Foundation with funding from SLCC Arts and Cultural Events programming. She gave a 45-minute presentation, followed by a Q&A and book signing. Klein's latest book, "This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate," is the 2014 winner of the prestigious Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction. Earlier in the day, she met with students on the SLCC Taylorsville Redwood Campus, where she was asked how she came up with the name of her new book.

"Climate change doesn't just load the dice for the weather. It's an accelerant for all kinds of other issues as well," Klein said. A storm becomes a "super" storm

or a drought becomes a "severe" drought because of climate change, she added. She also said private enterprise can have a role in positively affecting climate change in



Naomi Klein talks to more than 800 people at the Grand Theatre.

ways that are socially responsible, albeit in an economic system that is built to value short-term profit and growth above all else, including the environment. But instead of acting in an impactful way toward climate change, Klein said the past two-and-a-half decades have been

"wasted" doing the wrong things and talking about a rapidly evolving subject in a way that is stuck in the 1990s. She invoked climatologist Michael Mann's notion of the "procrastination penalty" and how drastic measures are now required over "nonradical" options for stemming the tide of climate change and the "inaction" that has taken the world in the wrong direction. "We now need to cut our emissions very deeply and very rapidly to stay within the carbon budget," she said.

Klein told students, and later a near sold-out crowd at the Grand Theatre, that efforts to focus more on climate change can be designed to also help solve problems like economic inequality and racial injustice. "In short," she said, "a more humane society that values the lives and experiences and contributions of all of its members, including people who have been forced to leave their home countries because of wars fought over fossil fuels, because of the impasse of unfair trade agreements that our governments have pushed and, indeed, because of climate change." Klein also plugged her new film "This Changes Everything," wherein a "symphony of voices" on the "front lines" of climate change are depicted as a "celebration and exploration" of the movement. She wanted the film to come out in time for the upcoming United Nations conference on climate change in Paris. Her favorite screening so far, Klein said, was in Amsterdam, where it was shown on the wall of a coal-fired power plant.

Klein's first book, "No Logo: Taking Aim at the Brand Bullies," was also an international bestseller. She is a contributing editor for Harper's Magazine, a reporter for Rolling Stone, an internationally syndicated columnist and a member of the board of directors for 350.org, a global grassroots movement to solve the climate crisis. Her reporting from Iraq for Harper's Magazine won her the James Aronson Award for Social Justice Journalism in 2004, and in 2014 she received the International Studies Association's IPE Outstanding Activist-Scholar award.



SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin (left) prepares to testify before lawmakers in Washington about the value of CTE funding. PHOTO CREDIT: House Education and the Workforce Committee.

## SLCC president testifies in D.C. about CTE funding

Salt Lake Community College President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin testified in October in front of the House Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education for the meeting “Improving Career and Technical Education to Help Students Succeed in the Workforce.”

House members were considering reauthorization of funding for the 1984 Perkins Act, established to improve the quality of technical education as a means of helping the economy. Lawmakers invited Huftalin and others to talk about the impact Perkins funds have had on CTE programs at their institutions. For fiscal year 2016, SLCC received approximately \$1.25 million in Perkins money.

“Over the last several years as the recession weakened state investment in higher education, Perkins funding was crucial to our ability to maintain and grow key CTE programs for our students at a time when our enrollment

was rapidly increasing,” Huftalin told legislators. “Acquiring modern equipment is imperative for state-of-the-art CTE programs. These programs are costly to maintain and often require significant financial resources to ensure we have the latest technologies and equipment to train our students to enter today’s ever-advancing and technical workplace.”

Huftalin said Perkins funds have been used to improve training in SLCC’s Aviation Maintenance Avionics “to meet industry demand and maintain high-quality training,” and in the college’s Automotive, Diesel Training and Building Construction programs, all serving “critical industries that contribute to a healthy economy.” She told representatives how Perkins dollars help strengthen student support services that help increase completion rates. SLCC’s president highlighted how the college works collaboratively with Boeing to train students in CTE areas like machining, fabrication and composites within SLCC’s



PHOTO CREDIT: House Education and the Workforce Committee.

aerospace manufacturing program, which relies on Perkins funds.

“Career and technical education has always been, and will continue to be, at the very core of our mission at Salt Lake Community College,” Huftalin concluded before taking questions from committee members. “We appreciate your past support of the Perkins program and encourage your continued support as this worthwhile program is considered for reauthorization.”

# SLCC helps accelerate resurgence of manufacturing



PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE: Students take part in a composites class at the Meadowbrook Campus.

Salt Lake Community College is part of the latest round of 12 communities or states selected to take part in the federal Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) initiative, a U.S. Commerce Department-led project to accelerate the resurgence of manufacturing in communities nationwide.

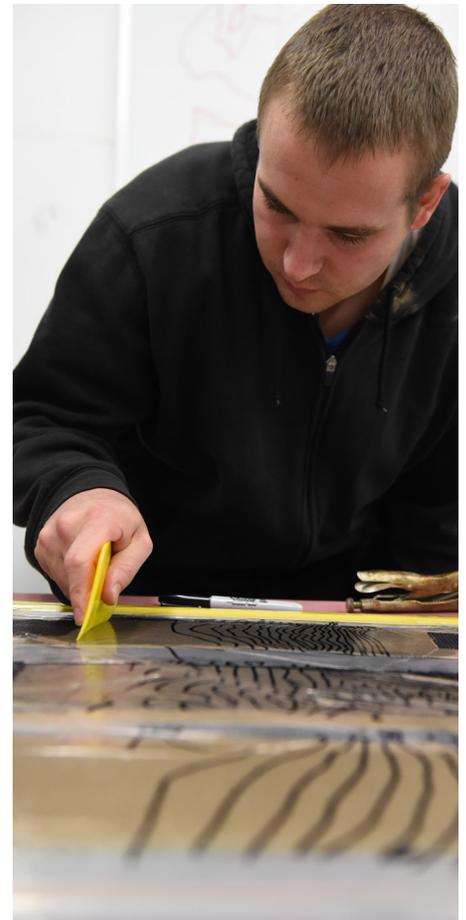
The Utah Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Initiative (UAMMI) was one among the second round of “manufacturing communities” that will benefit from more than \$1 billion in federal funds that will fuel targeted grants for participants. U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker announced the first 12 designees in May 2014. “An IMCP designation is an important signal to potential investors that these communities are a good place to spend their money, and this is smart government at work,” Pritzker said.

For the past 50 years, Utah’s Advanced Composite Cluster has grown to serve national and international markets through its highly specialized manufacturing capacity in advanced composites materials and products for aerospace, outdoor recreation and equipment and transportation equipment

industries. UAMMI, using a chain of local solution centers and led by the University of Utah, involves seven colleges and universities, including SLCC, seven state and local economic development groups and nine industry partners. One center, SLCC’s Westpointe Center, will advance as a comprehensive solution center for manufacturing technology training and entrepreneurship advancement, said Karen Gunn, SLCC associate provost of economic development and business partnerships. The College also offers a Manufacturing Engineering Technology program that trains students to be composites technicians.

“This important designation will promote communities taking a strategic, comprehensive approach to long-term operational improvement of manufacturing activities,” said Nicole Omer, SLCC Office of Sponsored Projects director. “The Utah Initiative (UAMMI) involves deep relationships between the public and private sector and is designed to have a substantial impact on developing critical manufacturing workforce infrastructure.”

In addition to having access to federal funds, the designated manufacturing



communities selected to take part in the IMCP also receive a dedicated federal liaison to help navigate all available federal resources. The UAMMI and other participants also receive increased global visibility via a government website that is accessible to prospective private foreign and domestic investors investigating manufacturing communities’ competitive attributes.



A student in the School of Applied Technology gets hand-on welding instruction. Welding is one of SLCC's competency-based programs.

## College pilots competency-based education

Salt Lake Community College is using a \$2.5 million Department of Labor grant and existing college resources to roll out a competency-based education (CBE) delivery model within the SLCC School of Applied Technology. The goals of this initiative are to develop a delivery model that addresses the unique needs of adult learners and to offer those learners options not available in the traditional academic model. The SLCC program targets working adults who are underserved by traditional education models. Successful pieces of the pilot will be scaled to the larger SLCC community.

A 2013 Utah Board of Regents resolution called to implement strategies that will help Utah's public higher education institutions improve completion rates toward reaching Gov. Gary Herbert's goal of 66 percent of all Utah adults holding a college degree or technical certification by 2020.

SLCC is using the CBE initiative to respond to the local, state and national demand for educators to find ways to increase recognition of prior learning, completion, retention and persistence of college students. The design of the model includes strategies to improve those outcomes and looks to reduce time to completion and cost of attendance.

While some components of the model are already in place, the SLCC long-term

vision of CBE is to implement a robust, scalable and cross-disciplinary program that would support the expansion of CBE into more academic areas of the college. SLCC leaders believe this is a unique and innovative approach to providing solutions for adult learners and that the combination of benefits and flexibility to students will provide access and incentive for a population of adults not currently accessing higher education.

The program will help reduce a student's time toward completion and, as a result of an accelerated schedule, lower the cost of attending college. It is the recognition of prior learning that helps speed a student through assessment. Students will use a self-paced, self-directed type of learning that relies on technology-enhanced educational resources to help adult students realize the ability to customize their approach to learning. Competency-based education at SLCC incorporates a flexible blended delivery system made up of online and face-to-face instruction. By the time students are finished, industry-designed transcripts will list competencies mastered – or in other words, what students can do – instead of broad concepts seen in the typical course titles listed on transcripts that potential employers are left to interpret.

## SLCC students benefit from aerospace program

Gov. Gary Herbert announced over the summer the start of the Utah Aerospace Pathways (UAP) program, which will provide Utah students the opportunity to graduate high school with a certificate in aerospace manufacturing and begin an aerospace manufacturing career. This unique program has brought aerospace industry representatives, education and government leaders together in an unprecedented collaboration, with the goal of developing a pilot program. The first semester of the program took place in high schools in Granite and Davis school districts, and the second semester at Salt Lake Community College and Davis Applied Technology College. Students participate



Flanked by area officials and community members, SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin touts the Utah Aerospace Pathways program.

in a paid internship during their senior year of high school.

Upon completing the UAP program, and passing pre-employment requirements, students will be certified to begin work with one of the aerospace partners in Utah. The six aerospace industry partners in Utah are Boeing, Harris, Hexcel, Hill Air Force Base, Janicki and Orbital ATK. Students begin work at a family-sustaining wage, and many of the industry partners have agreed to provide tuition reimbursements after a minimum of one year working for the company. If students prefer, they can pursue training within their company and work their way up.

## Pride Parade



Nearly 300 Salt Lake Community College staff, faculty, students and their families marched in the 2015 Utah Pride Festival parade as part of SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin's ongoing inclusivity initiative.

## Hispanic Student Leadership Summit draws hundreds to SLCC

More than 1,000 students from area high schools attended the recent 2015 USHLI (U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute) Student Leadership Summit held at Salt Lake Community College.

Sponsored by McDonald's and USHLI and organized in part by Latinos In Action SLCC and the SLCC Student Association, educators and Hispanic students heard from Alfred Ramirez, USHLI director of operations, and educator Ernesto Mejia. Keynote speaker Carlos Ojeda Jr. shared his inspirational story of growing up in a tough neighborhood, struggling in school, and later graduating from college and succeeding with his career. He showed photos of his three children and wife, who is now a doctor.

Students from several school districts spent the morning attending a career and college fair on SLCC's Taylorsville Redwood Campus. One goal of the event was to motivate students to pursue a college education. It is the third year McDonald's has joined USHLI and CoolSpeak, of which Ojeda is president and CEO, to present the Student Leadership Summit.



Latino high schoolers attend the U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute Student Leadership Summit at SLCC.



Dumke Foundation board member Scott Thornton in the offices of Combat Films in Salt Lake City.

# DONOR BOOSTS DEVELOPMENT OF MATH, SCIENCE RESOURCE CENTER

It took Scott Thornton a few tries before he found his academic footing or a clear career path. At first he wanted to be a “ski bum” or maybe a river rafting guide. Then he worked in the restaurant business for a while. He tried taking classes at Utah State University and Westminster College.

At best, he had a “spotty” transcript when he enrolled at Salt Lake Community College, leaning in the direction of someday making movies. “When I was a kid I wanted to be a photojournalist,” Thornton said. At the time, he also heard about a business called Combat Films in Salt Lake City. He walked in one day and said, “Teach me how to make movies, and I’ll work for free.” For about half of that first year, he moved boxes, logged video tapes, took out the recycling and hauled equipment, which he learned to use while attending SLCC. His favorite instructor at SLCC was Josh Gold, an

center is fully functioning, it will annually serve an estimated 13,000 student requests for assistance.

“Diplomatically I think community colleges deserve more resources because the barriers to entry are so much smaller,” said Thornton. Huftalin in her letter, asked the Dumke Foundation for \$250,000, which she said would help the new center promote peer learning, student-faculty engagement and student professional development.

“SLCC is working tirelessly to try to close the math and science achievement gaps for underrepresented students,” Huftalin said. “We know there are students out there who can succeed in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields with just a little encouragement and support to help them find their academic confidence. This generous gift will help us build a state-

of-the-art resource center to assist students in pursuing their dreams of a career in science, math, engineering and technology.”

Before the

Dumke Foundation agreed to make the donation, Thornton met with Dr. Craig Caldwell, SLCC interim dean of the School of Science, Mathematics and Engineering. Caldwell helped Thornton better understand the need to help more students succeed in STEM.

“As our focus at SLCC continues to be on completion, we have recognized that the needs of community college students are unique and require new strategies to accelerate completion in math and science,” Caldwell said. “For this reason, the importance of the gift from the Dumke family can’t be overstated. It has enabled us to make a remarkable transformation of the learning support offered to our science and math

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*“SLCC is working tirelessly to try to close the math and science achievement gaps for underrepresented students.”*

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associate professor of political science. “He’s probably one of the most passionate teachers I’ve ever had. I was blown away,” Thornton said.

It was that fresh start at SLCC, gaining confidence, being exposed to engaged professors like Gold, and his new job at Combat Films that propelled Thornton into a career in making documentaries. For the past eight years, this career has taken him around the world. As a new board member of the Dumke Foundation, Thornton remembered his positive experience at SLCC when a letter from College President Dr. Denece G. Huftalin came before the board asking for a donation for the new Math, Science and Technology Resource Center. When the



Staff, faculty and students attend an event announcing the development of the Math, Science and Technology Resource Center.

students. I am very confident that this gift will have a positive and lasting effect on the lives of our students for a very long time.”

Thornton called it a “no brainer” to support the new center at SLCC and the students it will help. “These are kids who are hungry for knowledge,” he said, adding that the gift is the start of what he hopes will be a lasting relationship with the College. “SLCC makes the most of its resources,” he said. “The amount of students served versus the money given, it’s going to service a lot of people and impact a lot of lives, and ultimately that’s the mission of the Dumke Foundation.”



LEFT TO RIGHT: SLCC student Odassis Cheeks, SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin, SLCC student Alyssa Wandell and Chair of the SLCC Board of Trustees Gail Miller.

## Annual Gail Miller Golf Tournament Benefits SLCC Students

**S**alt Lake Community College Foundation in September held its annual Gail Miller Utah Leadership Cup golf tournament at Hidden Valley Country Club in Sandy and raised more than \$140,000 for student scholarships.

"It is truly humbling and inspiring to see this tournament grow each year with the involvement of more and more community members who recognize the value of helping to educate students at SLCC," said Alison McFarlane, SLCC vice president of Institutional Advancement. "It's also a thrill to see the golfers taking the opportunity to speak with SLCC students, the beneficiaries of their donations, throughout the day on the golf course."

SLCC student ambassadors greeted golfers from 38 registered teams at each hole to talk about the College and their goals. Two SLCC basketball players hit long drives for some teams. Radio hosts David James and Patrick Kinahan interviewed SLCC Board of Trustees

Chair Gail Miller and SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin during an on-site broadcast of The Zone Sports Network.

"I thought the golf tournament was a great way to get the community involved and to help them see the importance as well as the need that we as students have at SLCC," said SLCC student Alyssa Wandell, a Jordan High School graduate who wants to be a nurse someday. She was stationed at a hole on the course with fellow SLCC student leader Odassis Cheeks. "Higher education is completely necessary and it is completely expensive and it's not always easy to get a scholarship," she said. "So, I think it's fantastic that we had the golf tournament because it gives students the opportunity to make their goals a reality."

Four-person teams began the day with a shotgun start and played an 18-hole team scramble format. Utah Jazz broadcasters Craig Bolerjack and Ron Boone were on the course throughout the day to take a few swings for golfers who made

donations to the scholarship fund. The Utah Jazz Bear, Jazz Dancers and the Salt Lake Tribune's Kurt Kragthorpe also took part in the event.

The winning teams for the three flights were: Sinclair/Grand America; George S. & Dolores Eccles Foundation; MountainStar Healthcare; Boyer Company; Roger McQueen Group; and Komatsu Equipment. Three generations of the M. Dale Ensign family played on the same team this year.

*Gail Miller*



UTAH LEADERSHIP CUP  
For Student Scholarships

For more information or to become involved in next year's tournament, scheduled for **Sept. 12, 2016**, contact Nancy Michalko, executive director of Development at:

**801-957-4247 or  
nancy.michalko@slcc.edu**



## Recipe for a long, successful career

*Utah chef moved beyond dyslexia, rough academic start*

There will always be a place in chef Zane Holmquist's kitchen for underdogs – because he used to be one, when few people gave him a chance in school and when cooking meant time spent not having to bear the ridicule that came from being dyslexic. Once voted in high school most likely to go to jail, Holmquist, 48, is now vice president of food and beverage operations for the Stein Eriksen Lodge Management Corp. Not bad for a “punk” kid who sported a Mohawk haircut, tattoos and an attitude and, by all appearances, looked like he might be headed down a path of obscurity. On the contrary, he has become a star in his profession.

Despite skipping a lot of class time his senior year, Holmquist managed to graduate from Cottonwood High School. His biggest criticism of schools today is that educators often don't teach to a student's strengths, a flaw in the system that he says actually pushed him toward cooking. As a student, he had been mocked for his dyslexia, a reading disorder that meant he also had a horrible time spelling even simple words. Now, former classmates say things like, “Hey, I saw you on TV,” he recalls. “You shouldn't judge a book by its cover. That's kind of the dichotomy of my life—don't judge just what you see, because

there's a whole lot more there.”

Holmquist's father and grandfather were realtors and property developers, and it was assumed he would follow in their footsteps. But his mother ran restaurants where Holmquist started to learn to cook. “This is literally what I've done my entire life,” he says. “In the kitchen, I found solace. One of the things I tell people about this job whether you're in the front or back of the house is that it's truly an equalizer. It doesn't matter if you speak English, if you can read or write, if you're from the Ukraine, Russia or Mexico, whether your mom and dad were rich, we open our arms to and accept everyone. I grew up working around people from around the world from every economic scale.”

He cooked throughout high school, graduated and inched forward professionally while working two or three jobs at a time. One of those jobs was working as a line cook for Melvin Harward, executive chef at Salt Lake Country Club. Harward remembers being hard on Holmquist. But they also talked about Harward's career path, how much it paid and what Holmquist needed to do if he wanted to become a chef. “He had that raw talent,” says Harward. “And I told him



Zane Holmquist talks about his career at Stein Eriksen Lodge.

he would do better going to culinary school and getting that piece of paper if he wanted to get his foot in the door. I think he's extremely talented. He puts his whole heart and soul into it. He has a love for it."

**H** olmquist headed back to school, a humbling experience for someone who already had a cache of cooking competition victories. He also had gaping holes in his academic history. "What filled the gap for me was Salt Lake Community College," Holmquist says. "It got me back in the flow after being out of school for five years." He took basic math and English and honed his skills and talent in SLCC's culinary program. "SLCC put me on the path and gave me the skills to go away to The Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park (New York). And CIA is really the Harvard of culinary schools, the finest in the world in my mind."

From the finest learning environments to one of the finest ski boutique hotels in the country, Holmquist eventually landed at the Goldener Hirsch Inn in the Deer Valley Resort area. He cooked at the inn for six years before bringing his

grandmother's Swedish meatball recipe to Stein Eriksen's Lodge, where he has worked for the past 15 years. Using Scandinavian flavors

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*"What filled the gap for me was Salt Lake Community College. It got me back in the flow after being out of school for five years."*

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and influences he grew up with, Holmquist crafted a menu for the lodge that creates lifetime memories for customers. "It was about creating a sense of who Stein's is and creating an overall theme to the food, which is rustic refined American," says Holmquist. "It's very eclectic." And the menu undergoes two full changes each year, with beloved mainstays like his signature wild game chili.

**T** hrough the years, the demands on Holmquist's family and personal life have meant 80-hour work weeks, never being home for the holidays and missing many of his son's events in and out of school. "I love what I do," he says. "We all look

back and say, 'What if I could have done things differently.'" However, to become an executive chef, Holmquist notes that the hours mimic that of an emergency first responder, someone in the military or a doctor. "A lot of chefs don't want to work like that," he says, singling out the next generation of chefs now in their 20s. "I think it's good and bad for the industry," he says. "It will be a rough transition. It's an evolution, but I think it will overall be better for the industry."

If someone is willing to work hard for him, then their chances are "infinite," Holmquist says. And he has a soft spot for underdogs, the types who might be a little rough around the edges – like Holmquist was – and seem like more of a risk to take on as an employee. "To me, it's about the second chances," he says. Holmquist's definition of success in life, personally and professionally, is hearing about the chef he mentored

who was able to finally buy that first home or one he might meet on a beach who just wants to say thank you for the time they had at Stein's.

**H** e quips about still not being able to spell the word February, but he has cooked for kings, presidents and celebrities, newlyweds, the very rich and those of more modest means who save up for an experience in Stein's dining room, where Holmquist – his punk attitude and tattoos tucked away – is often found roaming, talking to customers about their meal or their stay at the lodge. "I love hearing from guests," he says. "It means everything. I read every comment card. And I get back to



Chef Zane Holmquist likes working near a scenic environment.

people. I take those things very seriously." For Holmquist, a good or bad day on the job is determined less by spreadsheets than by making

powder piles up. And lately he's been competing in half iron-man events. He spends some of his spare time with his "wiener" dogs and his wife,

"Being a chef is a cool thing," he says about the path that led him to the top of his profession. "I love it, being at Stein's. I truly have the best job in the world, and I wouldn't trade it for anything. I'm pretty lucky. I have a great kid and a great wife. I am the American dream."

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*"To me, it's about the second chances."*

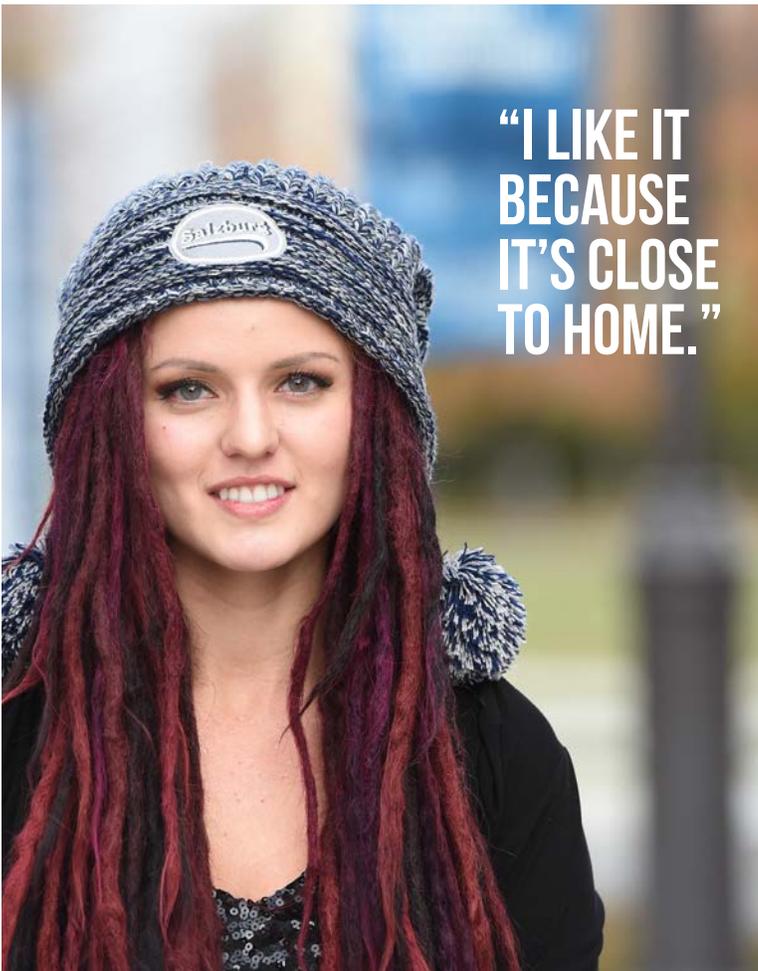
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sure customers leave happy. He lives to hear things like, "You made my anniversary. You made my wedding," and so on, he says.

**H** olmquist has loved being "on the mountain" for the past 21 years working in the Deer Valley area, riding his mountain bike when the roots and rocks are showing and slipping in a few runs on his skis when the

who works in the hospitality industry. They may enjoy a simple meal from a "one pan" recipe, or they'll pedal to a local restaurant where the conversation drifts in and out of work and business. Yes, work inevitably comes first, whether it's cooking, talking to customers, working with the 200 people he manages or sitting at his desk with an \$8 calculator to figure out a \$15 million budget.

# WEST VALLEY CENTER OPENS



“I LIKE IT  
BECAUSE  
IT’S CLOSE  
TO HOME.”

**K**ylie Farmer isn't sure what area of environmental geology she will pursue when she transfers to a four-year institution, but for now she's grateful for Salt Lake Community College's new West Valley Center.

SLCC's newest location opened this past fall, and more than 30 different courses are being taught there for the spring 2016 semester. Farmer, who recently returned to Utah with college credits from Washington, looked at places such as University of Utah and Westminster College, but SLCC was the right fit at this point in her life. “I really go off of my gut, and SLCC really felt right,” she said. “I like it because it's close to home.”

She lives in Magna and is attending college using military benefits earned by her father, a disabled Army vet who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. “I think I have half of my teachers' phone numbers, just because they say, ‘Call if you need help with any assignments.’ They all know my name, which isn't always the case in college. It's a really close connection. They're always willing to stay after class if I need to talk about anything. I really like it.”

SLCC staff and faculty welcomed community members and leaders Aug. 15 to open the new location at 3460 South 5600 West in West Valley City. A ribbon cutting was held with special guests, Utah Rep. Sophia DiCaro, Utah Sen. Luz Escamilla and West Valley City Mayor Pro Tem Corey Rushton. Guests were given tours of the facilities.

“Our new presence in West Valley City is collaborative, intentional and according to the enrollment numbers, already successful,” said SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin. “We are proud to have worked

SLCC student Kylie Farmer is among the first to attend the new West Valley Center.



with the local community leaders to determine the courses needed by the residents and to have created such a vibrant, welcoming place to learn.”

Whether it's the basics, such as English or math, or more unusual subjects, such as astronomy or yoga, West Valley Center offers a variety of subjects to fit many goals and aspirations. The Center will also have student services for veterans, people with disabilities, and those in need of financial assistance.

Close to Granger, Kearns, Hunter and Cyprus high schools, SLCC is collaborating with community, government and business leaders to ensure the West Valley Center meets the needs of the area and its residents. Just like SLCC's many other locations in the Salt Lake Valley, the West Valley Center gives students an affordable, convenient option for fully transferrable general education courses as well as classes for the lifelong learner.



ALL PHOTOS THIS PAGE: Students, community members, staff and faculty check out SLCC's newest location in West Valley City, which opened to students for the fall semester.

## Salt Lake Community College 6th in nation for degrees awarded

Salt Lake Community College placed sixth overall in Community College Week's most recent Top 100 list of associate degree producing colleges in the United States.

"SLCC is consistently in the top 10 producers and we are always pleased to share this accomplishment," said SLCC President Dr. Denece G. Huftalin. "As the national and local attention grows even more focused on college completion rates, I am pleased SLCC can contribute in such an impactful way."

The ranking is based on the 2013-2014 academic year, in which SLCC awarded 3,782 degrees, representing a 9 percent increase over the previous year.

Community College Week annually produces a special report that features the top 100 degree and certificate producing two-year institutions. Community College Week compiles its top 100 list using data collected by the National Center for Education Statistics through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Set completions survey that all colleges and universities accredited by agencies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education must complete. The list includes institutions from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.



Salt Lake Community College 2015 Commencement.

## 2015 President's Art Show



Over 200 artists submitted to the 2015 President's Art Show.

# Building lives and community one student at a time

The following article by SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin appeared in the Salt Lake Tribune in October.

Assuming the role of president of Salt Lake Community College over a year ago was a huge privilege. As I've listened to the national conversation escalate over the important role of community colleges, I have deepened my knowledge and respect for the enormous, diverse and transformative impact that SLCC is having in our own backyard through the stories of the students we serve.

Last May, **Sam**, a first generation college student and SLCC graduate, completed his first year of graduate school at Columbia University. In high school, Sam thought he wasn't college material. Since his parents hadn't had the opportunity to attend college, Sam's knowledge of the college application process was limited. By chance, he tried one Developmental Math class at SLCC his first semester. With positive feedback and personal attention from his faculty member, he tried a few more courses the next semester. His academic confidence lifted, Sam continued at SLCC, graduated with honors and transferred seamlessly to the University of Utah where he earned a degree and served as student body president. Sam represents just one of the 70 percent of SLCC graduates who benefit from SLCC's transfer education mission toward helping them find a pathway to a four-year degree.

After serving 14 years in the military, **Darlene** started a career in the concrete business but couldn't make ends meet. As a single mom of two, Darlene enrolled at SLCC and earned two degrees in two years, including one in the high tech field of Non-Destructive Testing. Darlene's new career takes her all over Utah, inspecting components on bridges, fuel tanks on trucks, even equipment at nuclear and geothermal plants. Now she provides a strong living for her and her family. Darlene represents 642 student veterans receiving an education from SLCC, recognized consistently as a top 10



SLCC President Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin

college by Military Times for our service to veterans. She also represents the 30 percent of students who attend SLCC to take advantage of our workforce education mission.

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*We educate and train more than 61,000 students each year.*

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**Carlos**, a new student for Fall 2015, successfully completed our PACE program at West High School. Carlos began the program four years ago as a ninth-grader. He committed to taking a strong academic schedule, maintaining a high grade point average, achieving 90 percent attendance, and exploring career options during the summer for four years. In return, Carlos arrived at SLCC with a two-year, guaranteed scholarship. Thanks to partners such as Zions Bank, Questar, the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation and others, SLCC has provided this clearly financed student pathway. Carlos is one of 152 students in the PACE pipeline as part of SLCC's access and affordability mission.

With her father, **Emily** dreamed of a gathering place for coffee and conversation in the Sugarhouse community. After her father's death, Emily wanted to carry on the dream's legacy, to create a public space with great menu items. After opening

Sugarhouse Coffee, Emily enrolled in the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program at SLCC, which helped her construct a successful business growth plan. Six months after her graduation, Emily had increased revenue by 14 percent and employees by 20 percent. Emily, alongside owners of Feldman's Deli, PopArt, KRCL, Camp K and Paletti represents the 219 small business leaders who have completed the short-term, grant-funded training program, strengthening our local businesses and demonstrating SLCC's community engagement and economic development missions.

Throughout the year, I've applauded our committed faculty members who, concerned about the growing costs of textbooks, are using low- or no-cost online educational resources for entire courses. As of this fall, this initiative will have saved students \$750,000 on textbooks. By spring semester the savings will surpass \$1 million.

To realize Gov. Gary Herbert's 66 percent by 2020 goal, we must open our doors more widely to Utahns who have historically been underrepresented in higher education. Our West Valley Center opened its doors this fall and currently enrolls 377 students with immediate geographic access to higher education.

Salt Lake Community College is a comprehensive community college, with no plans to deviate from that path. We educate and train more than 61,000 students each year at 10 sites and online. Our students' stories exemplify the diverse and impactful influence we have – an intellectual path, a strong second career, enhanced business savvy, a place to shine, free learning resources and an open and affordable door to college.

It's important that everyone in the Salt Lake community understand and support the role of Utah's only community college by urging our state's legislators to continue investing in education and, in particular, in Salt Lake Community College.



SLCC students from Matt Monson's visual merchandising class pose in front of a Macy's window, where they revealed their candy-covered creation for the store's holiday display.